

Blessed Are The Ignorant Darshan Diary Friday 17 December 1976

Some women sannyasins-both ashramites and non-residents-met together to talk informally about how they experience themselves in terms of their 'sexual identity'. In the context of the ashram and the work happening through Osho.

Taking part in the conversation were Savita-a psychotherapist recently arrived from London; Chandan-a student of acupuncture in Poona for a short visit; Madhuri-author of several poetry books and one of Osho's librarians; Mallika-leader of the Tai chi group; Paras-a cleaning lady in Osho's residence; and Vandana, Anurag and Maneesha-~~3~~-all editors..

Maneesha: I thought to meet together to talk about how women here feel about themselves, and why they are in positions of authority were one might expect a man to be.

Madhuri: I feel that women are in positions of authority to balance things. I think it is beautiful to have such powerful female energy being used in that way, because it makes a total manifestation of getting things done. It's a sort of round-about, strange way of getting things done, but it really works-it's sort of chaotic and very organic. It's mostly just organic.

And I never really thought about it in a mental way, like: the women are doing this, and the men this, and male-female, and I don't really think in terms like that about it. The only thing I see that's really happened to me is that when I was in the West and when I first came I was tremendously masculine-I had cultivated it. I was terrified of being female. When I started to

become female at puberty, it really frightened me. It was like I wanted to succeed at something, I wanted to be strong and independent, and I wanted to make a mark.

So I worked really hard at everything to do that—especially my body—and became an athlete, more or less, or an ascetic, and eventually I took it to such an extreme that it was like a madness. I felt like I really saw through the effort to the very last degree—but Osho pushed me into some situations where I was forced to go farther and farther into effort. Having me twirl for an hour and half. I wouldn't stop before the hour and a half was up, and I got really sick and I kept going and kept going. This was the culmination of years of that kind of thing—where I used to run every day and starve myself.

And it went very deep—it was very deep in my mind to resist being relaxed, to resist being round and soft and allowing, so that I didn't have any sexual feeling either. I didn't have any feeling in my body because I was so afraid of relaxing, because then I wouldn't go anywhere—I wouldn't be famous or successful or whatever I wanted to be that I felt was the most important thing in the whole world. And of course all that had to break here, and it was very painful and it was very deep. I really saw so many trips just falling one after the other, one after the other. And now I feel female, but so totally that I really don't think of it as female.

Savita: What do you mean by being female? I don't quite know what the terms are, so I find it difficult.

Maneesha: Well, when I talked to Aneeta she was using the terms of sun and moon—which is better perhaps. Ones sun elements or moon elements.

Savita: I mean it's very easy to say female—passive, male—active, female—receptive, and male—outgoing. I find that very confusing. When I thought about it after you talked to me, I felt I didn't really know what the differences were as such—except that too me it seemed natural that in a society where women are entering much more freely into so-called male activities, it's more likely that women will have access to the male in them, than perhaps men do to the female in them.

And that was all that really occurred to me about why Osho might be using female energy in the ashram—that it's more accessible. In other words, it's more .. the male and the female are more likely to be balancing in the woman at the moment. It is more difficult for a men to get in touch with the female in him, I think.

Madhuri: The strange thing that I found in my own mechanisms was that all of my driving, my male driving to be skinny and hard-working in everything, was deeply just a desire to be attractive to men. And it did me out of it in the end, because I just became so hard that it was impossible. But that was what I was really striving for—to get to a point where the men would like me and I would be as hard as a man

Vandana: For me now, it's very different, because sexuality isn't something that's really happening in my life, and yet I'm aware of a tremendous amount of strong energy which I wouldn't call male and I don't call female. I don't quite know where I'm at with that.

I guess it is male but because it's not in relation, in a sort of sexual thing with men and women, I don't really feel either. I don't feel feminine in the sense I used to feel feminine, or male in the sense of a masculine kind of experience.

Maneesha: Was it you I was talking to the other day who said that you're feeling more asexual, and that you're not relating to men so much in the sense of 'me, a woman, relating to you, a man'?

Vandana: Yes, that's right. And I'm having much easier relationships with men. I feel much more at ease with men in a sense that I never did before when I was relating sexually to men—because I don't want anything from them, so I can play with them. And I don't know what that energy is in me that's there—whether that is female energy. It doesn't feel feminine in the way I used to know as feminine, because feminine was being feminine manipulative. On some level the man was a sex object and I was creating myself as a sex object.

It's very hard to define, because its defining in terms of the

past and there's no comparison. It's really very different.

Madhuri: I'm comprehending and curious about relating to men in a non-sexual way.

I'm always wanting something sexual to happen between me and men that I'm relating to, unless I establish that there on the nice, safe, human-brother level, which is a different kind of way ..I don't really understand it at all. I'm still really enmeshed in it. Really puzzled by the whole thing.

Maneesha: I never really thought in terms of it being important in terms of one's evolution that one came to balance between the two parts-yin and the yang-but from what Osho was saying the other day in the lecture it seems that this is really a step-you have to come to a reconciliation. That's why I wanted to talk about it because I hadn't seen that that's maybe what he's trying to do-to help bring about a balancing. It seems obvious now, but he put it so clearly-that we've got to come to an inner reconciliation between the two elements.

Mallika: It seems like he's providing situations for all of us to find out as much about ourselves as possible.

(To Madhuri) It feels to me, in experiencing the women and the men here compared to where I came from before, that were all being given situations in which we can balance out those elements within us. Osho is always saying about women having been repressed for centuries and centuries and the need for them to find that Yang element, and for the men to do the reverse. I don't know what it's like being a man, so I can't talk from that angle, but I know from myself that I'm constantly feeling that kind of marriage within myself. My relationships happen within myself.

And with the work that I'm doing in the group I'm being able to be as Yang as I want to be and at the same time it makes me very yin as well. It creates a balance situation in me so that I feel at home with myself .. really at home with my self and okay.

That's another thing here-how Osho makes it okay to be

wherever your at. He makes It okay for women here to be completely passive and into being very fem, and he also makes It okay for women to be very heavily into organising and running things and being boss. Like we can be everything that we are.

Maneesha: (to Paras) I talked to you a few months ago and you were saying you felt in a balance now.. Can you talk about that?

Paras: All that's been lost! (laughter) I mean everything I've never known as all been lost.

Maneesha: So what about right now?

Paras: I just feel it's all right.. Everything's all right, and like Mallika said, it's all right just to be whoever I am and whatever comes out, it's fine.

Maneesha: A few months ago were you feeling that things were integrated, and now you're still flickering from role to role? Is that what's happening?.

Paras: I can't really even talk about it much. I thought maybe other people would help me to talk about it, but it's really hard for me to say anything because I just feel like a person now, and I can't really think in those.. I can't get back into the feelings that I used to have about the whole thing.

I feel good. I mean Osho is just allowing me to be whoever I am. And I don't know whether male and female even applies anymore. I don't think it applies.

Savita: I feel like that as well. In some sense of the word we transcend male and female and we are just finding our true nature.

Its somewhere a combination of both or what we've always understood to be one or the other, but it's neither as well. And when you have cut male and female out, your left with the ways in which. I mean if we like to seek active jobs or leadership roles as male, we are just left with the job and not

the labels. And then you have a whole range of things. You just cut across it from a different angle, it seems to me.

I know that I slip from one thing to another. I sometimes feel I'm being active and aggressive-whatever you might call male but I don't particularly feel that that scene is not part of the me that's passive. It's just me in a different situation, somewhere else.

Madhuri: I really worry a lot about what I look like, and I compare myself a lot ..That lecture really meant a lot to me yesterday about comparison - it was very beautiful.

Maneesha: Yes, I identify with that too. I just thought about it this minute but Osho was the first man I met that I couldn't seduce, and I see now everyday how much of my former life was ..I knew I got things because of the way I looked or I could play seduction games and was really good at manipulating, and always there was a sexual undertone. And with Osho I see that it doesn't matter what I look like-if I'm all spotty or hair all over .. or whatever-that whole game is completely irrelevant here. So that's helped me.

But also I have been feeling more and more an asexuality-that externally is manifested in not seeing men as men. I don't know if that's because Teertha and I are not into love making any more, So all those sex games are gone-but it's just fantastic to be able to talk to a man and not have that flirtation going .. I mean I flirt now sometimes, but I just do it as a game because I enjoy it, and I just want to see If I can still do it ..(laughter).

Vandana: What about when they do it to you?

Maneesha: They don't! Maybe I'm just not receiving it, but I'm not feeling sexual vibes from men either. And I feel It's because I'm not emitting any, so they don't give them back. But it's beautiful, and I am just more aware of people now on an energy level.

I was in the encounter group the other day for a few hours. We were going around touching people with our eyes closed,

and the first person that I banged into was a man, and he gripped me really sexually and passionately and I just went limp; and the next encounter was a woman and we just touched each other, and she was so soft and that's..

I've just been drawn more and more to women and soft energy lately—which is really beautiful. But I am mainly feeling really good about men now because there's no sexual overtones. It's really nice to see them as people not sex objects.

(To Savita) Do you have to go so soon? Do you want to say anything?

Savita: Yes. I can't think of anything specific. There was something that occurred to me about receptivity. What came to me was that religion is about receptivity, so that makes more sense of why the female energy is being used, if one could agree that women tend to be more receptive. But it's clearly in opposition to the western trend which is the opposite.. .. which is sort of activity. I mean it's not passivity that's important, as much as receptivity.

And I suppose I'm just really going back to what I said before. It is almost as if women have certain advantages ..they start with certain advantages. And I've always felt this—even though I was in the women's movement and everything else—that with woman there's something biologically receptive to begin with, simply because of the way we are, the way our bodies are, and I suppose we have to know that as much as we have to know our male, our active side and our receptive

Madhuri: I notice something definite about the men and the women here—especially people who have been here a long time .. people who live at the ashram. There's a lot of kind of horseplay, and smooching and hugging and stuff, but it's very much a kind of a light simple playfulness. The heaviness is gone—there's just a little surface delight in being male and female and playing with it, but there's no thought that you have to go to bed with somebody. All the energy is just not there.

Vandana: Yes. There really is a difference .. when you say that

one gets into a kind of high space and we're neither male nor female, but to hug with a man is different than hugging with a woman. Recently I met someone who'd just come from the West, and when I hugged him I was really quite startled because he started running his hands over my ass. (Laughter). I'm not used to it, and I was not expecting it at all! I wasn't exactly put off but I was surprised, because that isn't what happens here.

But here with men in the ashram there is definitely something really delightful about experiencing that male energy—it's different from being with women.

Chandan: What does male energy feel like?

Vandana: Well, I'm calling it male energy—I guess that's in quotes, becauseI mean I just feel the balance, and in a way I still haven't given up on wanting that for myself—which is interesting because before I was always searching for the one, the partner, and that was always part of the sex game. And now that I'm not conscious of sexuality happening in me, I still haven't given up on that as a balance. I feel there's this balance whichIt's not like a great big yawning gap in my life, because with my work and just being with Osho that is a balancing thing in itself, but I feel when I look at the couples who've been around for sometime like you and Teertha and a lot of the couples here—I like the look of that, I can feel what that would be.

I guess I still want that and if it doesn't come, it's okay. I'm not actively looking for it or waiting for it or anything. But it seems that it is no accident that so many people are in couples or in partnership around here— that somehow that balance is good for us otherwise it wouldn't happen. Otherwise we would just be a whole community of individuals. It seems to me that Osho is wanting people to settle that something happens in relaxation, letting go, when you're settled.

Madhuri: There's something about falling into the person you're with which is just like falling into your own self, but it's bigger—it's just very beautiful, very total.

And something that I've noticed: within my relationship with

Bodhi, or if I happen to be hugging somebody else or something, the minute that some sexuality comes into it, if there's a suggestion of that kind of out-going, questing energy, immediately within me I feel a barrier and a frustration. I found sex to be extremely engaging and something that you go after; and at the same time there's a total frustration about it. And the minute any sexuality comes, I sort of(makes a movement of helplessness)

Maneesha: because you know it's already doomed?

Madhuri: I know it's going to happen!

Maneesha: Chandan, have you got something to say?

Chandan: Well, I'm not sure yet. I've been playing around with the difference between passivity and receptivity and different things that Osho said. He said in answer to a question somebody asked him about who was his last girlfriend—that, **'Your all my girlfriends-and the boys too.'** And what he meant by that—the way I see it is what he means when he says he wants woman to be running the ashram because women are closer to no-mind, and Enlightenment is total surrender and total receptivity, and therefore the men are his girlfriend to. He wants everybody—male and female—to be receptive. So I've been playing with that.

And then there's also the other element of the balance. He's giving male roles to women and providing situations for men to find the feminine side of them. So there's those two things happening at the same time, and not leading to anything. That's just what's been going on in my head.

Maneesha: What's been happening to you as far as your 'sexual identity' goes, in relationship to being here?

Chandan: It's been difficult because I'm a lesbian and so I get vibes that I should not be lesbian—I should be heterosexual. If I'm a lesbian it's ..

Maneesha: You mean from ashramites or..?

Chandan: And from Osho—the lecture he gave when he said that it hinders spiritual growth because there's no polarity in relationships of people of the same-sex. That's really upset me so I've been asking myself if there is polarity.

But he talked about it as though it was a kind of an escape, an avoidance. If you avoid polarity, your avoiding challenge, your avoiding facing anything, your avoiding discovering about yourself. So I've been asking myself, 'Has there been polarity in my relationships with women? And I think there has been, you see. Maybe I'm completely wrong and I'm kidding myself I think there has been and that I seek out polarity.

And I've just done a group—the Tao group—and the people that things happened with, were in fact men, although it wasn't sexual at all. All of you have been saying in one way or another, that when sexuality isn't happening, then there's an openness and a freedom—and I feel that with men, in some ways I've always felt that.

I've generally avoided them, but I have had close friendships with men, which have been very relaxed because there has been no sexuality involved in it, so I've just been myself and they've been themselves.

When the sexual element enters a situation with a man, I feel totally denied, totally paralysed. In the same way when you said you were surprised when the guy put his hands on your ass (to Vandana), down your thigh. That really shocks me when that happens—it's like putting a dagger inside me.

Maneesha: .. If the men, are in fact, becoming more feminine here, don't you find any difference in yourDon't you feel more a draw towards them because the energy is more feminine perhaps, rather than masculine?

Chandan: Well, I haven't really got to know anybody here apart from in groups—it hasn't really happened—so I don't really know—I haven't really felt any differenceWell, no that's not true. I like the men better here.

The thing that happens with me is this thing: you should be

heterosexual, therefore you should have sexual feelings for men. I can't imagine! I've never had sexual feelings for men-I can't imagine it. And when I was a teenager I tried very hard. I was trying and of course it never happened. I don't know what I'm trying to say, because I can't imagine! I don't know what it's like! (laughter)

Mallika: One thing that came up when Chandan was talking is being with men here, it's a bit like being with somebody else's girlfriend-to be with the men who are really into Osho (laughter). And that's what's different here-our primary relationship is with Osho and not with each other and that's our first love affair. He's it, and nobody else will ever be able to satisfy in those ways. So I stopped looking anymore in a way, to get any. All that satisfaction that I used to crave in another's relationship, because I've got it with him now.

When I came, I came with the definition of myself as a lesbian, my last sexual relationship, for several years had been with a woman, and before that I was rabidly heterosexual. When I was here and I felt my sexuality coming up very heavily at the beginning, I felt I had to direct it towards men because I couldn't see any women around here that I could get it on with, and so it had to ..

Maneesha: Because the women seem very ..?

Mallika: Into men! Male-oriented women here. .. and a lot of very strong woman, you know, so it was confusing to me because I was meeting women who reminded me of the lesbians I'd been with-because they were so tough and heavy, and getting it on and running the place-but then they were sexually with men. And then Osho told me that it wasn't a problem and not to bother about it. And now I guess I'm not turned on to woman anymore. If sexual feelings come up for me, they come up with men. But all that isn't so important anymore. I mean it's not this major defining factor for me.

I can be really open here to both men and women, and I work with a lot of different men and women every month. Often it's the men are more open to me, who will be more physically affectionate with me than some of the women will be. But it's

amazing around here how people relate. You know-how you'll see men hugging and kissing each other, exploring, and men holding hands.. And women as well. There's no barriers on being with people.

What changed with me in a way when I became a lesbian, was how the whole barrier between being physically affectionate and sexual, because of the woman I ..the borderline between being affectionate and being sexual was much more blurred. And it seems that's happening between everybody here-that all those borderlines have receded.

I can have very intense physical contact with men which contains no sexual feelings from either side-It's really nice.

Chandan: One of the things is-I want to bring in the women's movement, and there's a lot of rejection I feel here for any belief system.

One of the things that happens in the women's movement is that women are exploring the male side of themselves. In the context of the way that we're talking about that here, that's fine, that's good. Where it becomes bad is when they reject the female in themselves because they associate it with passivity rather than receptivity. That's where I want to bring in the difference between passivity and receptivity-because that is like throwing the baby out with the bathwater.

Madhuri: Sometimes the extreme has to be gone to, to understand it. You know, just the pull to go to that extreme.

Maneesha: Osho to me is the epitome of balance because he's so feminine, incredibly feminine. He's so elegant, and yet he's so ..
.. ..

Vandana: His legs when he folds them!

All: Yes!

Maneesha: Yet he's so powerful. I mean he can just demolish someone with the power that a woman wouldn't.

Chandan: Well, how would a woman demolish someone?

Maneesha: I'm not saying that a woman can't demolish someone, but he does it in a way where a woman wouldn't-- just.. ..(making a stroke movement like a sword.)

Chandan: What's the difference? That's what I want to know.

Maneesha: Well, in terms of demolishing, fighting, I see men as much cleaner about it, I see woman aslike he says, a woman will let you know by the way she pours the tea. And I see woman as rather sneaky and subtle but still getting through to the man.

Madhuri: I see the power he uses not as male I can understand when you say it that way, but I usually think of it as the power of God--just this huge, totally enormous thing--when he demolishes somebody.

Chandan: But he calls it male, because when I asked the question about why there weren't any woman masters, and he said you have to be male to have the aggressionThat's why I ask you what's the difference between demolishing in a male way. I mean, an enlightened woman isn't going to show her aggression by the way she pours a cup of tea.

Vandana: what about that men become masters and women become mothers.. ..swamis and mas ?

Mallika: When he was saying that, I realised I had this real value judgement in my head about it being better to be a swami--that a master is higher or something because the enlightened men become the masters. Maybe one of my fantasies is Osho is going to start up a new era of female masters perhaps, or goodness knows what he's doing!

Maneesha: This is what I want to know. He's talked about unisexuality--is this what it's really about? Is this unisexual community going to be created or something else happening?

Vandana: He says some woman are 51% female,49%male. Well then, when he's saying only men become masters--maybe there

are exceptions, like maybe

Maneesha: He says women have become masters but they tended to have more male energy, hasn't he?

Vandana: But now women are showing their male energy more anyway, so this whole thing-it will throw everything out.

VARIOUS VOICES: It's all mixed up together! (Laughter)

Maneesha: (to Vandana): You were saying about swamis and mas ..I don't know if anyone else felt like this but I went through a thing when I first came, when I was meditating a lot, of wanting to have children. Osho has talked about how that could be a side effect of meditation-that an emptiness is created inside and people might try to fill it by eating a lot or smoking or drinking, and women often feel the desire to be pregnant.

That's gone now for me. And I also went through a phase of feeling pregnant with Osho and walking like it! I remember Pratima saying, 'Oh, all the women around here begin to walk like that!' But really! My legs were apart and I was strutting like this (demonstrationlaughter) as if I had Osho inside!

I once had an extraordinary experience after Darshan of feeling Osho inside me-literally-and felt him closer than he's ever been in Darshan. It was very extraordinary-he was really in my belly.

So to me, I love the idea of a ma and I feel that is the ultimate for a woman-to be full of something, and sharing rather than --A master has connotations of loneliness, being up there somewhere

Mallika: Oh, I love that!

Vandana (to Maneesha): ..YesThe feeling of the mother of the whole existence.

Maneesha: Yes! I love it when he talks about Mother Earth and I love the idea of earth and fecundity and receptivity and little green sprouts (laughter).

Madhuri: yes, I feel like I'd really like to know what he means by Ma .. to the full sense.

Vandana: He doesn't mean mothering, having children.

We don't know what mothers are. I'm sure I won't be going to have any children in this life. And maybe he will start woman on having children, but it doesn't seem to be going that way.

Madhuri: It's very strange to watch women having children around here. I can't have any conclusions about it, but I'm really amazed by it.

(to Chandan) You say you can't relate to having sexual feelings towards men-I can't relate to having motherly feelings.

I can't relate to the desire to have a child

Maneesha: You felt that only while you been here

Madhuri: I felt that in a very distant way ..I felt I could conceivably feel that way some time, but not directly, not seriously. Not at all. I just feel too utterly ..humble.

Mallika: I feel too utterly selfish! Before I came here I was living with Chandan and Nishita and her child, and part responsible for taking care of the baby. I am just so relieved to be on my own, to be all on my own now and just be able to do what Osho puts me to do and what feels good to me, and not to have any responsibility to anybody else ..not have to account for anything I do except to Osho. It's just so much cleaner now, freer, more spacious and ..

It just gives me the creeps to think of all that work of babies and kids.

Vandana: I would like to put it in a more attractive way. But my first reaction is 'God, how ghastly-the thought of having this squalling baby!' And I did have that when I came here-this kind of residual programming that I had to find the man to have the kid, because that was what one did.

What really hit me very strongly once in the meditation was that I'd done it! The whole thing was that my body and everything—my whole body chemistry—wouldn't be completed unless I had a baby, and it was just like this very strong thing saying, 'I've done it and done it, and done it, and I don't have to do it this time.' That experience has been had. Maybe this physical body hasn't had that experience, but the experience for sure, has been had!

Maneesh: Well, let's talk about what you said—what does Osho mean by us being—by the ultimate being—and ma, a mother? Does anybody have feelings about that?

Mallika: Before I came I was so into looking at the whole universe through feminist's eyes, and seeing the whole of nature as basically female, and feeling the cosmos like that, and God as a mother, as a she, as giving forth, giving birth.

And since I've been here, the whole thing about the path of awareness, and the way he talks about a swami being a master of oneself—that's the side of myself that tempts me now more than anything. Romantic love doesn't make it any more; I just can't believe that that would ever do it for me. And the thing that lures me really is the fantasy image of myself being the master of myself, and pure, crystal-clear Buddha-like awareness and clarity (laughter).

Maneesh: But because you're called that doesn't mean you've got to be a ma. He said the other day that he feels he wants to call some Ma's Swami's sometimes, and vice versa, didn't he?

Mallika: yes, but it's so funny to come from one extreme to another and just be able to see that the mind does all these trips! We can carry on chewing over this till the cows come home, and we still won't have any idea what the hell he's doing here! (laughter)

Maneesh (to Anurag, who has just arrived); We talked a while ago about how our attitude to men was now as compared to when we were in the West and why Osho is giving us situations of authority and situations like that ..Why he says the ultimate woman is a mother.

Anurag: I don't know ..What ever is happening is happening. I've given up trying to work out why or analysing it ..really ..I feel that I've worked through a lot of masculine trips since being here and now I can relax into being more feminine than I could before.

I think one of the things about Ma as the universal Mother is related to the whole meditation trip in as much as it is unconditional acceptance and surrender.

I think the path of awareness is slightlyI mean outwardly it may seem different, ultimately it comes to the same thing maybe. I feel that will and surrender ultimately do come to the same thing-I don't know how. If you're trying to will something completely, it means you have to surrender to that thing that you're willing to happen, and let everything else drop ..so it does sort of get mixed up in a way.

That unconditional love is a big trip. I have that with my husband, but I can see, I can feel how it relates with everything- just accepting everything and surrendering to the whole flow.

Maneesha: So ladies, anyone else want to say something?

Chandan: Well, I just want to explore something .. We were talking about actually being mothers. I feel very torn because I have had really strong feelings wanting to be a mother. I've experienced it in some ways because I've had a lot to do with babies, and I've experienced moments when I've felt, where I see what it's like, the lovely side of being a mother-not the squalling baby, tying down side-and I have a really strong yearning for thatreally strongly.

And I have Mallika's yearning too-for the freedom-because I've never been free of babies, and I want that very strongly to. So I'm completely torn between those two needs because I have them both.

(two Madhuri) And also I don't understand how you laughed so much when I said I couldn't imagine sexual energy about men-I can't understand how I can have such strong feelings about being a mother, because you can't be a mother, you

can't get pregnant without sex.

Anurag: Osho once said to me that if I could be a mother completely to Arhat, then that would fulfil me as a mother and I wouldn't need to have a child.

Maneesha: Yes, I felt that too, because a lot of my feeling for Teertha is a sort of caring for him. If I had a baby then I wouldn't want to do that mothering trip with him and I'd resent him not being the man and the lover. The child would have to have the child's role first. I think that would really spoil this whole dimension. As it is my mothering instinct is satisfied in my relationship.

Mallika: I think there's another element which is just coming out—that the other side of ourselves that we are going into discovering is the child much more. ("Yes!" from everyone). You know, that we can go from room to room and get what we needand all the ways that we can play with each other. There's so much seriousness and heaviness that's dropped. And we play around like five-year-olds, the games we do!

Madhuri: Its funny—all those old Christian ideals like love, charity, celibacy, so on—they are all happening here. Were like good, young youth, you know(a roar of laughter)

Vandana: Yes, really!

Madhuri:except with these ridiculous beams on our faces! (Pause) Well, I have to do the work of the Lord and find some holy books for him to read.

Maneesha: Anyone else have something to say?

Mallika: Osho is giving us the space to experience male and female roles so that were no longer hung up in them. He's giving us the chance to do all the stuff we need to do, and then where we end up is being kids again. There's nowhere else to go.

Maneesha: Mm' Unless you become like children ..'